In the claims:

1-3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Previously Presented)   A restraints control module (RCM) for a vehicle that has at least one impact sensor comprising:

a memory device for storing a deployment time of a deployment event;

a comparator comparing said deployment time with a fault time and determining whether said fault time corresponds with said deployment time; and

a controller electrically coupled to said memory device and said comparator, said controller determining when to deploy a restraint, storing said deployment time, and storing in said memory device a fault time corresponding to said deployment time, said fault time indicative of said fault within a component selected from at least one of the RCM and the at least one impact sensor; and

an indicator electrically coupled to said controller and indicating when said deployment time corresponds with said fault time.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Previously Presented)   A module as in claim 4 wherein said indicator comprises at least one of: a pulsating indicator, a light bulb, an LED, a fluorescent light, an audible signal, a visual signal, a 7-segment display, an analog gage, a digital meter, a video system, and a hazard light.

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Previously Presented)   A restraints control module (RCM) for a vehicle comprising:

a memory device for storing a deployment time of a deployment event;

a controller electrically coupled to said memory device, said controller determining when to deploy a restraint and storing said deployment time; and

an indicator electrically coupled to said controller, said indicator permanently indicating that the RCM has been on a vehicle that has been involved in a collision.

9.   (Currently Amended)   A restraints control module (RCM) for a vehicle comprising:

a memory device for storing a deployment time of a deployment event; and

[[a]]an in-vehicle controller electrically coupled to said memory device, said controller determining when to deploy a restraint and storing said deployment time;

wherein said controller stores in said memory device a restraint power draw value during said deployment event.

10-11. (Canceled)

12.   (Previously Presented)   A restraints control module (RCM) for a vehicle that has at least one impact sensor comprising:

an indicator;

a memory device for storing a deployment start time of a deployment event; and

a controller electrically coupled to said indicator and said memory device, said controller determining when to deploy a restraint and storing said deployment start time and duration in said memory device;

said controller storing a fault time in said memory device and signaling said indicator when said fault time corresponds to said deployment start time and duration, said fault time indicative of a fault within a component selected from at least one of the RCM and the at least one impact sensor.

13. (Previously Presented) A module as in claim 12 wherein said indicator continuously indicating that the RCM has been on a vehicle that has been involved in a collision.

14. (Previously Presented) A module as in claim 12 further comprising a comparator electrically coupled to said controller, said comparator comparing said deployment time with a fault time and determining whether said fault time corresponds with said deployment time.

15. (Previously Presented) A module as in claim 12 wherein information stored in said memory device is uneraseable, unresettable, and unoverwritable.

16-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method of time stamping and indicating a deployment event within an automotive vehicle having a RCM, said method comprising:
    sensing a collision;
    generating a collision signal in response to said collision;
    deploying a restraint in response to said collision signal;
    storing a deployment time; and
    storing restraint power draw during the deployment event via a controller of the vehicle.

23. (Previously Presented) A method of time stamping and indicating a deployment event within an automotive vehicle having a RCM, said method comprising:
    sensing a collision;

generating a collision signal in response to said collision;

deploying a restraint in response to said collision signal;

storing a deployment time; and

continuously indicating a fault in response to the deployment event utilizing information from an uneraseable, unresettable, and unoverwritable memory.

24. (Previously Presented) A restraints control module for a vehicle comprising:

a memory device for storing a deployment time of a deployment event; and

a controller electrically coupled to said memory device, said controller storing a deployment end time of a restraint in said memory device.

25. (Previously Presented) A restraints control module for a vehicle comprising:

a memory device for storing a deployment time of a deployment event; and

a controller electrically coupled to said memory device and determining when to deploy a restraint and storing said deployment time in said memory device, said controller storing operating time of the restraints control module in said memory device.

26. (Previously Presented) A method of time stamping and indicating a deployment event within an automotive vehicle having a RCM, said method comprising:

sensing a collision;

generating a collision signal in response to said collision;

deploying a restraint in response to said collision signal;

storing a deployment time of said restraint; and

indicating whether the RCM has been on a vehicle that has been involved in a collision, wherein said indication is uneraseable, unresettable, and unoverwritable.

27.   (Previously Presented)   A module as in claim 4 wherein said controller stores said fault time when said fault time corresponds to said deployment time.